

HISTORIC



PRESERVATION

CITY

OF LAS VEGAS



Mormon Fort 1855



Moulin Rouge 1955

## History Reveals Much About the City

Las Vegas is much more than just slot machines and showroom performances. This legendary city is alive with historic sites and stories that convey its exciting history – a history of railroads, mining, gaming, and tourism.

## Historic Preservation Remains Important Today

Historic preservation identifies, preserves and enhances buildings, landscapes, and districts. It helps keep alive the foundations of our community, and a sense of permanence that connects us to the past.

A number of local historic sites have been lost, but many sites do remain. These places were important to the growth and development of early Las Vegas. Now they remind us of the way life in the desert used to be. The past can be a powerful guide to the future.

# Local Efforts Yield Results

The city of Las Vegas is moving forward with its historic preservation efforts. In 1991, the city formed the Historic Preservation Commission.

Las Vegas won formal designation as a Certified Local Government, the only entity in the valley to do so. This recognizes the commitment of the city to historic preservation and opens the door to grants and assistance from various federal and state agencies. It strengthens the power of the Historic Preservation Commission to protect historic sites.



5th Street School 1936



Railroad Cottage 1910-1911

# Historic Preservation Commission Fills Many Roles

The Las Vegas Historic Preservation Commission plays a large part in keeping the past alive.

The eleven-member commission makes recommendations for the designation of historic properties, landmarks, and districts. The commission then reviews any plans for alteration to formally designated sites.

The commission also makes recommendations for the use of public or private funds to promote historic preservation, conducts detailed studies and surveys of properties within the city, and initiates relevant changes to the city's general plan and ordinances.

The commission assists neighborhood groups that want the historic details of their community or want their area to become a historic district. The commission further seeks to provide incentives so that owners of historic properties continue to preserve these important buildings.



J. D. Smith House/Las Vegas Historic District 1932



Westside School 1922

# National Register Ties to Local Area

Congress created the National Register of Historic Places in 1966. The Register lists landmarks deemed worthy of preservation because of their importance to American history, architecture, engineering, or culture. The National Register calls attention to over a dozen sites within the city of Las Vegas.

However, safeguarding sites is essential at the local level. The National Register provides protection for existing sites only when a property owner seeks federal funds for a project. Since insensitive alterations and demolition destroy the history of the buildings, public support and involvement can make a critical difference.



Green Shack 1932



Huntridge Theatre 1944

## How to Find Out More

Las Vegas has a past worth preserving, and a rich history lives on in the old buildings and neighborhoods that remain. Take a walk through one of these historic neighborhoods and see and feel the past for yourself.



U. S Post Office 1933

For further information on historic preservation in Las Vegas contact the Las Vegas Historic Preservation office at (702) 229-6301.





Las Vegas High School 1931

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## Properties on the National Register of Historic Places

Eureka Locomotive

Fifth Street School

Green Shack

Huntridge Theater

Las Vegas High School

Las Vegas High School Historic District

Las Vegas Mormon Fort

Las Vegas Springs

Moulin Rouge Hotel

Railroad Cottage Historic District

J.D. Smith House

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse

Westside School



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C I T Y O F L A S V E G A S

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